

Glorify my name: 24-30 May

Bible time  **John 17.1-11**

Jesus talks to the Father about being glorified and prays for his followers.

Life today

As you read this passage, think about the way we 'lift up' or honour people for their achievements. In sporting competitions, the winner often stands on a podium as they receive the praise of the crowds. In this passage, Jesus had completed his work and it was time for him to be 'lifted up.' All stand up or hold something up as you read it together.

Read the story together then explore it using these questions.

Question time

- Why is it important for us to glorify God?
- What do you want to praise/thank God for?
- How can we 'lift up,' glorify or honour Jesus in our ordinary, everyday lives?

Activity time

● Praise banner

Gather together some craft materials and make a banner, decorating the letters 'Jesus', perhaps painting these onto an old pillowcase, or making a collage on a large sheet of paper. As you create your banner, talk about why the name of Jesus is so special, and how we can express our praise to him.

● Going up high

What is the tallest place you can get to? Climb to the top of your stairs or perhaps a tree in your garden (if it's safe to do so), or, if possible, visit a hillside together. People sometimes speak of 'mountain top' experiences, where they feel particularly close to God. Why do you think this is? Where are the places you like to be where you can be close to God? If you can't get to your special places to be close to God, where else can you be, and what can you do to help with feeling closer to God right now?

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed: 'Father, the hour has come. Now is the time for me to be glorified. You have given me power over everyone. I will give eternal life to all those you have given to me. They will know you as the one true God and they will know me as Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.



'I have brought glory to you in the way I have lived my life on earth. But now I have finished the work you gave me to do. And so, Father, the time is right for you to glorify me in heaven.

'I have told the people that you sent me that you are God. They believe in you and have been faithful to you. They know that the things I have taught them come from you, and that everything I have comes from you.

'I am not asking for the world's sake, but for the sake of those who belong to me. And all those who belong to me are yours. Now I am no longer in the world, but they are still in the world. I am leaving them to come to you. So I ask you, Holy Father, to protect them in your name, so that they may be as one, just as you and I are one.'

to glorify to praise or honour greatly; eternal life fullness of life in God's presence, both now and after death.

● Begin by glorifying

For one week, before you get out of bed, begin your day by telling God how great he is. How does this change your day?

Prayer time

Pray together. Beginning with the letter A, find one word for each letter of the alphabet to tell God how great he is. If you can't think of a word for one letter, then skip it and move on – but try to pray using as many letters as you can!